

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WILLIAM GREEN, President

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1935.

FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer

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Frey Attacks Government Regulation Of Wages and Industrial Relations

Tells Convention of A. F. of L. Metal Trades Department That Administration of Labor Relations Act Is "Disrupting" Factor in Industry; Says Wage and Hour Administrator Has Too Large Discretionary Authority.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C., September 30.—A demand for government interference in regulating wages in industrial relations generally and more cooperation between industry and labor in determining wages was made by John P. Frey, president of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor to the annual convention of the Department here.

Declaring that the trade union movement was founded on "self-government" in industry instead of government by bureau and administrator, Mr. Frey said that the labor movement should have a very limited role in industry. "Congress through legislation," he declared, "will establish the proper and adequate rules of the game. It is to be conducted, a long step to prevent the recurrence of widespread depression will have been taken, but the legislation of the government is not the solution. Something equally important is required. Business and organized labor, through the conference room and collective bargaining, must work out the problem of stable production, and the economically sound division of the wealth created.

Critiques Labor Relations Board

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"I am determining the proper unit for collective bargaining," he added, "the board, on numerous occasions, has eliminated the members of our affiliated organizations from the list of employers on collective bargaining for their representatives."

Labor Relations Act Must Be Amended

"It is obvious," Mr. Frey went on, "that before there is any action in the industrial field so far as the Wagner Act is concerned, it must be amended; but when amended, it cannot be successfully applied."

Twenty-Third Convention of Plumbers And Steam Fitters Was Great Success

First Meeting in Ten Years Was Attended by 614 Delegates; Many Notables Addressed the Convention; Formal Delegates Brought Greetings From Great Britain; Cooperative Policy With Contractors Was Strengthened; Office of Assistant President Created.

The twenty-third convention of the United Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada, recently held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, was a great success. The convention was unique because it was the first one in ten years. It was held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and was attended by 614 delegates. Many notables addressed the convention, and formal delegates brought greetings from Great Britain. The cooperative policy with contractors was strengthened, and an office of assistant president was created.

One of the delegates was John P. Frey, president of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor. He addressed the convention and declared that the labor movement was founded on "self-government" in industry instead of government by bureau and administrator. He said that the labor movement should have a very limited role in industry.

John O'Connell, president of the Association, presided at the sessions. The extent of the delegates was indicated by the fact that ten committees were appointed by Mr. O'Connell to consider the 181 resolutions and recommendations presented by approximately 30 more than the number presented to any preceding convention.

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A. F. of L. Union Label Trades Department Reports Many Gains

Executive Board Tells Convention Demand for Union-Made Goods and Services Rendered by Union Members Has Been Tremendously Expanded; Six More Unions Have Affiliated With the Department; Union Label and Industrial Exposition and Union Label Weeks Are Emphasized for Their Important Results in Enlarging the Market for American-Made Products.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Houston, Texas.—The annual report of the Executive Board of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor to the thirty-third annual convention of the Department here was a report of many gains.

"The Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor has had a most successful year," the Executive Board said. "In addition to increasing the annual sales of union-made goods and services, the Department has had its first national exhibition of Union Label products in industrial services, known as the A. F. of L. Union Label and Industrial Exposition."

The increased demand for the Union Label, Shop Card and Service Button is due to the volume work in the industrial field. The National Industrial Conference Board, Central Labor Union, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, and various Union Label Committees have taken this opportunity to thank the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor for their white-label support and interest in the Union Label movement.

Abel Smith and Chas. L. Smith, Secretary and Treasurer of the Department, respectively, have been elected to the Executive Board of the Department. They will continue to serve the Department in their respective capacities.

Among national and international labor unions, industrial and commercial organizations, and consumers alike, the Union Label movement is gaining widespread acceptance. The Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor is proud to be a part of this movement.

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Building Trades Department Enthusias Over Progress Made During Past Year

President Morrison Tells Convention in Houston That 56 New Building Trades Councils Have Been Recently Established and That Hundreds of Millions of Dollars in Appropriations For Public Works and Low-Cost Housing Will Provide Work For Thousands of Jobs.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Houston, Texas.—Joseph A. Morrison, president of the Building and Construction Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, told the delegates to the thirty-third annual convention of the Department here that the last year had seen a record showing of growth in membership and improvement in labor standards and working conditions of the building trades unions.

Emphasizing the fact that the officers of the Department during the last year to mobilize the entire resources of the building trades unions to fight against unemployment and against lowering the existing wage standards, Mr. Morrison said the effectiveness of the Department's efforts was shown not only by the overwhelming majorities reported by the member unions but also by the unprecedented number of new unions organized during the past year.

New locals were formed by National and International unions in every trade and new building trades councils were established in many communities. In the past nine months alone 56 new local building trades councils were formed.

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Jobless Workers Total 11,031,000

A. F. of L. Reports Employment and Wages Are Gaining But Huge Unemployment Problem Still Remains Unsolved; WPA Provides Jobs for 3,114,000.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Although 251,000 persons returned to work in private industry during the month of September in the United States, the unemployment problem remains unsolved. The Federal Bureau of Investigation reports that the unemployment problem remains unsolved.

As indicated a month ago by early trade union reports, unemployment in the United States as a whole gained more in August than it lost during the month. Our estimate of total unemployment mounted from 11,031,000 in July (revised figure) to 11,081,000 in August.

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JUDGES HAVE OFTEN SHOWN HOSTILITY TO LABOR UNIONS

Action of Courts in Issuing Edicts Against Right of Workers to Organize and Carry on Trade Union Work Brought National Labor Relations Act Into Existence.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Many persons who make vitriolic statements against the National Labor Relations Act, which gives legal status to the right of workers to organize and carry on trade union work, overlook the fact that responsibility for its enactment rests largely with reactionary judges who have sought to limit the rights of workers to organize and carry on trade union work.

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